## Message

From: Thayer, Kris [thayer.kris@epa.gov]

**Sent**: 9/20/2017 1:02:50 AM

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**Subject**: FW: RRN | EPA nominees' Senate Hearing and TSCA first 10 chemicals public comments **Attachments**: 09 19 17 UCSF comments on TSCA 10 chemicals scoping FINAL.docx; ATT00001.htm

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FYI on public comments and scoring...

From: Bucher, John (NIH/NIEHS) [E] [mailto:bucher@niehs.nih.gov]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:36 PM **To:** Thayer, Kris <a href="mailto:thayer.kris@epa.gov">thayer.kris@epa.gov</a>

Subject: FW: RRN | EPA nominees' Senate Hearing and TSCA first 10 chemicals public comments

"One tool which might be helpful for evaluating the risk of bias in systematic reviews is the ROBIS tool, which the NAS committee utilized in their report. [1] This tool was developed using rigorous methodology and can be applied for evaluating internal validity of systematic reviews in conjunction with other available tools to critically appraise and assess their quality. Of particular note is the strong emphasis on the recommendation that tools such as ROBIS should not be used to generate a composite quality score, as it has been well-documented that scoring can lead to bias in evaluation of the studies. [2] As such, the ROBIS tool presents several options for visually and graphically presenting results from risk of bias assessments based on individual domains or the overall rating, enabling reviewers to highlight particular areas of concern or reviews that are most relevant to the target question of interest. "

<sup>[1]</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[2]</sup> Jüni, P., Witschi, A., Bloch, R. and Egger, M., 1999. The hazards of scoring the quality of clinical trials for metaanalysis. *Jama*, 282(11), pp.1054-1060.

Whiting, P., Harbord, R. and Kleijnen, J., 2005. No role for quality scores in systematic reviews of diagnostic accuracy studies. *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, 5(1), p.19.

Whiting, P., Savović, J., Higgins, J.P., Caldwell, D.M., Reeves, B.C., Shea, B., Davies, P., Kleijnen, J. and Churchill, R., 2016. ROBIS: a new tool to assess risk of bias in systematic reviews was developed. *Journal of clinical epidemiology*, 69, pp.225-234.